

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

/067 W

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R 141445Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8091

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AEMBASSY WARSAW 1991

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CZ

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION OF AMNESTY

1. ON MAY 9 CSSR PREMIER LUBOMIR STROUGAL ANNOUNCED A LIMITED AMNESTY FOR PERSONS IN JAIL, ON PROBATION, OR UNDER SENTENCE FOR MISDEMEANORS OR FELONIES CARRYING A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF THREE YEARS IN JAIL. PERSONS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR SIMILAR CRIMES WERE ALSO AMNESTIED. OFFENSES WITH MAXIMUM PENALTIES OF MORE THAN THREE YEARS

,
OFFENSES AGAINST THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE OR "WORLD SOCIALIST SYSTEM," VIOLATIONS OF STATE SECRECY, ECONOMIC CRIMES, PARASITISM, DISRUPTING GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONING OR ACTIVITIES OF STATE BODIES, AND OFFENSES COMMITTED WITH WEAPONS WERE EXEMPTED FROM THE AMNESTY PROVISIONS.

THERE WERE ALSO A RECOMMENDATION THAT, ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, REMISSION OR LESSENING OF SENTENCES BE CONSIDERED FOR IMPRISONED MINORS, PREGNANT WOMEN, MOTHERS OF TWO OR MORE CHILDREN, ELDERLY MEN OR WOMEN, AND SERIOUSLY ILL PEOPLE EVEN

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IF THEY DID NOT FIT INTO ONE OF THE AMNESTIED CATEGORIES.

2. COMMENT: BILLED AS MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S LIBERATION, THIS AMNESTY COMES AS NO SURPRISE, SIMILAR GESTURES HAVING BEEN MADE ON PREVIOUS IMPORTANT STATE OCCASIONS. POLITICAL CRIMES CLEARLY HAVE NOT BEEN INCLUDED; IN ADDITION, THERE APPEARS TO BE NO RELATION BETWEEN THE NEW AMNESTY AND RECENT ATTACKS ON DUBCEK AND OTHER DISSIDENTS WHICH CROPPED UP IN THE DAYS BEFORE THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS GOT UNDER WAY.
PERRY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PINT, CZ, (STROUGAL, LUBOMIR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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